

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims, including the text of the claims, serves to replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Withdrawn) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 24 wherein said slide (28) is inserted forwardly in said guide (29) when in said normal position.

3. (Withdrawn) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 2 wherein said slide (28) is displaced rearwardly, partly out of said guide (29) when in said safety position.

4. (Withdrawn) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 24 further including an arrest member (30) disposed in said guide (29) for limiting the movement of said slide.

5. (Withdrawn) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 4 wherein said arrest member (30) includes pins which extend inwards in said guide (29) and which are intended to cooperate with said slide (28) for limiting the movement of said slide.

6. - 11. (Cancelled).

12. (Previously Presented) A pedal assembly (1) for a vehicle to control a vehicular function, said assembly comprising:

a bracket (9) for attachment to the vehicle,

a shaft (3) coupled to said bracket,

a pedal arm (2) pivotally supported about said shaft in said bracket for moving between rest and applied positions,

an operating device (22) secured to said pedal arm a distance from said shaft for activation of the vehicular function during movement of said pedal arm between the rest

and applied positions, [[and]]

a safety device coupling said shaft to said bracket and movable within said bracket between a normal position retaining said shaft in a first location relative to said bracket and a safety position displacing said shaft to a second location relative to said bracket different from said first location with said pedal arm remaining pivotally supported about said shaft for maintaining movement of said pedal arm between the rest and applied positions and for at least partially maintaining functionality of said operating device when said safety device is in said safety position, and

a locking device (13) movably disposed relative to said bracket for securing said safety device in said normal position and for permitting said safety device to move into said safety position.

13. (Previously Presented) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 12 wherein said pedal arm includes an upper region mounted to said shaft and a lower region having a footplate (23) with said footplate moving toward said bracket when said safety device moves from said normal position to said safety position.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Previously Presented) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 12 wherein said safety device includes fulcrums (7, 8) movably disposed about a second horizontal axis (10).

16. (Previously Presented) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 15 wherein said fulcrums are mounted between said bracket and said shaft with said fulcrums supporting said shaft within said bracket.

17. (Previously Presented) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 16 wherein said fulcrums (7, 8) are capable of pivoting relative to said bracket to said safety position about said second horizontal axis.

18. (Previously Presented) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 17 wherein said second horizontal axis is disposed at said bracket and is substantially parallel with said shaft.

19. (Previously Presented) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 17 wherein said shaft pivots relative to said fulcrums when said fulcrums pivot relative to said bracket.

20. (Previously Presented) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 15 further including a locking device (13) movably mounted to said bracket and selectively engaging said fulcrums for securing said fulcrums in said normal position and for permitting said fulcrums to move into said safety position.

21. (Previously Presented) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 20 wherein said locking device includes arms (14, 15) pivotally mounted to said bracket about a third horizontal axis (19) and a plate (16) extending between said arms for engaging said fulcrums.

22. (Previously Presented) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 20 further including a sensor (32) coupled to said locking device for triggering said locking device to move relative to said bracket.

23. (Withdrawn) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 12 wherein said safety device includes a slide (28) movably coupled to said bracket with said slide supporting said shaft within said bracket.

24. (Withdrawn) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 23 wherein said safety device includes a guide (29) mounted to said bracket with said slide (28) disposed in said guide (29).

25. (Withdrawn) A pedal assembly as claimed in Claim 24 wherein said slide includes carrier arms (26, 27) supporting said shaft.